

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

OIC-02 STR-04 SS-15 NSC-05 /106 W

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R 081529Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4491

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN ETRD EGEN

SUBJECT: OECD: PROPOSED AGENDA FOR HLG ON COMMODITIES

1. PETER PRESTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE OECD HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON COMMODITIES (HLG), PROVIDED ECON MINISTER SEP. 8 WITH FOLLOWING SUGGESTED AGENDA FOR SEP. 24-26 MEETING:  
ITEMS 1 AND 2: PROCEDURAL.  
ITEM 3: REPORT BY CHAIRMAN ON MEETING OF XCSS, PREPARATION OF CONSUMER POSITIONS, ETC.  
ITEM 4: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON 7TH SPECIAL SESSION UNGA.  
ITEM 5. SPECIFIC COMMODITIES. PRESTON HOPES SEVEN SECRETARIAT PAPERS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES WILL HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED BY MEETING. HOWEVER, HE DOUBTS TIME WILL PERMIT CONSIDERATION OF ALL. HE SUGGESTS DIVIDING SUBJECT MATTER INTO TWO GROUPS--INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS (COPPER, RUBBER, HARD FIBERS, JUTE) AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS (COCOA, TEA, SUGAR). FIRST GROUP ONLY WOULD

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BE DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING. HE JUSTIFIED THIS APPROACH

BY NOTING AMONG TRP GROUP, COCOA NEGOTIATIONS ARE ABOUT TO START AND TEA AND SUGAR ARE MOSTLY OF INTEREST TO COMMONWEALTH AT THIS STAGE. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID DISCUSSION SHOULD NOT BECOME TOO DETAILED BUT SHOULD BE BROAD BRUSH, E.G., IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE COMMODITY AGREEMENT APPROACH BEST, WHERE PROBLEM IS PRIMARILY ONE OF MARKET ACCESS. ETC.

ITEM 6: EXPORT EARNINGS STABILIZATION. PRESTON FELT SECRETARY'S UN SPEECH HAD CLEARLY SHIFTED INITIATIVE TO US. COULD USDEL BE PREPARED TO GIVE MORE DETAILS ON OUR THINKING?

ITEM 7: INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT. HERE AGAIN PRESTON FELT THE U.S. MIGHT LEAD DISCUSSION. HE RECOGNIZED THAT BECAUSE OF AGENDA LENGTH, THIS MIGHT HAVE TO BE DEFERRED.

ITEM 8: NEXT MEETING AND FREQUENCY OF FUTURE MEETINGS.

PRESTON'S CURRENT THOUGHT IS THAT HLG MIGHT MEET ABOUT MONTHLY. HE NOTED NEXT XCSS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 30, BUT MADE POINT SCHEDULE IS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE US DESIRES.

2. FOR FORTHCOMING MEETING, PRESTON WOULD LIKE TO START AFTER LUNCH ON FIRST DAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AND FINISH AT LUNCH SEPTEMBER 26.

RICHARDSON

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